



DANI RESPETO

GLASS 2020

BODY IN (E)MOTION

BFA PRESENTATION

THESIS PROBLEM STATEMENT

Our bodies have the ability to convey more emotional narrative than any single spoken word ever could. I express gestural movement through the representation of the figure in glass.

THESIS STATEMENT

I move. I sit, stand, walk, and dance all the time. I am in a constant flux of change, rhythm, posture, and stance. In doing so, I activate my surroundings through planned or spontaneous movements and in a sense, dance my way throughout life. I argue that our body has the ability to convey more emotional narrative than any single spoken word ever could. This phenomenon fascinates me. I speak with my hands. I can listen with my eyes. I can console with a pose. In short, I can engage others with nothing more than myself. As a direct result, my artistic practice and work also reflects this. As a sculptor, my work draws influences from body language and emotive responses. Each piece is a visual statement of a particular emotion and/or phrase expressed through movement and solidified in glass.

I choose to work with glass, because in its raw form it is molten hot and temperamental. It is alive. It allows me to capture and express movement in many ways.

I respond to the glass by shaping, building, and moving it into the desired form. I find that the fluidity of the delicate material mimics that of a dancer moving on a stage – it mimics me. Glass as a substrate also allows me to essentially paint on its surface and capitalize on expressive marks. It allows me to paint figures in movement, interacting and expressing them physically. It is an ideal vehicle for this investigation.

With glass in hand, I find inspiration to work with it from many sources including, but not limited to modern dance, yoga, and art history. In modern dance, I find it interesting how practitioners use their body movements to tell a story and create dialogue between their partner and other dancers on stage. I reference their body movements in my glass sculptures as a means to document these stories (self-projection). With yoga, the practice uses the flow of energy from one pose to another to unify the mind and body and as a result, build a stronger connection with oneself. This practice also plays a vital role in informing my works' aesthetic.

I also derive from ideas expressed by artists, such as Michelangelo and Bernini, who imbued in their work a stunning sense of movement and drama.

Much like these artists found their voice through depicting figures with marble; I have found mine through glass work. I also take inspiration from the interactions of those closest to me. The manner in which these individuals interact with me through conversations or time spent together has made a lasting impact on my work.

In all these aspects, I am fascinated by the individual's capability to express themselves through nothing but their own body language and interest regarding. I find that glass can be one of the best vehicles to effectively capture and express this. In short, my work allows me to be open and empowers me to express my emotions in a way that words, perhaps, cannot.

MID YEAR BFA SPACE



“Ring of Dancers” 2018 - Clear Borosilicate Glass 8”x12”x12”



“Figure City” Figure Study 2019 - Clear Borosilicate Glass, Wood 18”x10”x10”



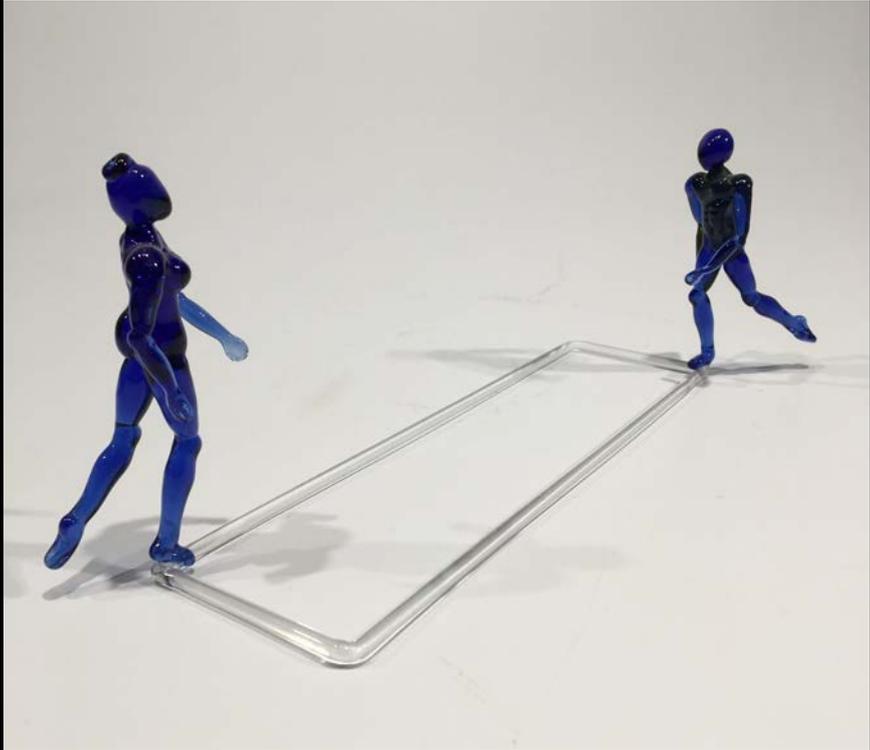
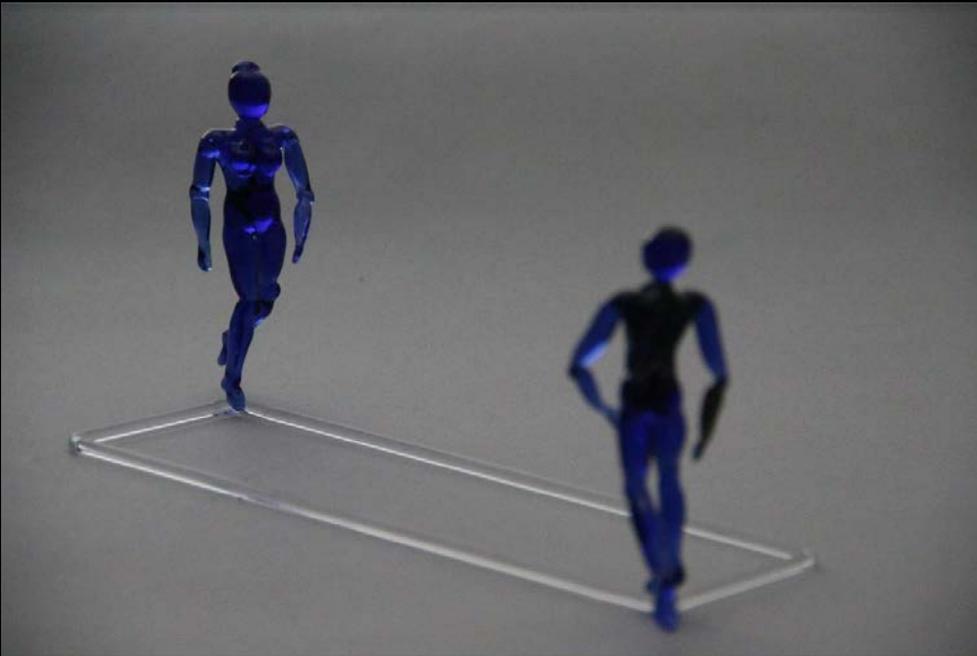
“Untitled” Movement in Transition 2019-

Clear Borosilicate Glass, Wood
10”x6”x6”



“Untitled” Conversation Piece #1 2019 - Clear and Colored Borosilicate Glass 5”x9”x2”





**"The Victor" Conversation Piece #2 2020 - Clear and Colored Borosilicate Glass
5"x8"x3"**



"Incensed" Conversation Piece #3 2020 - Clear and Colored Borosilicate Glass

5"x4"x3"



“Untitled” Music Box 2019 - 10”x4½”x4½”



Clear and Colored Borosilicate Glass, Stained
Glass, Mirror, Cast Bronze, Music Box Gear,
Brass Attachments





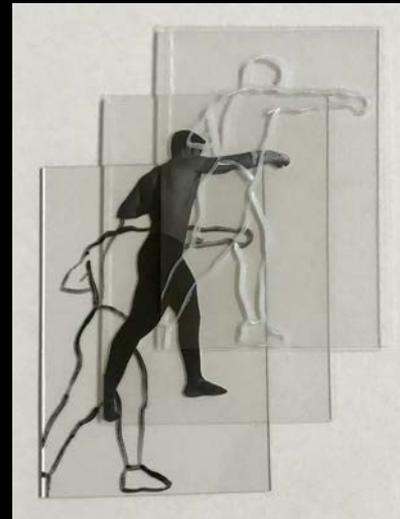
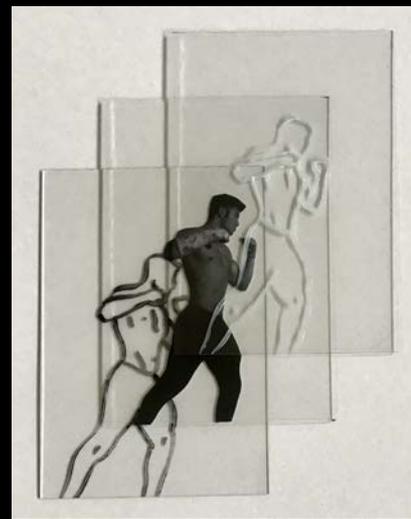
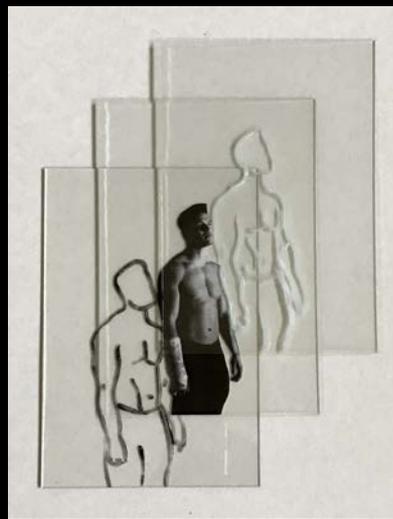
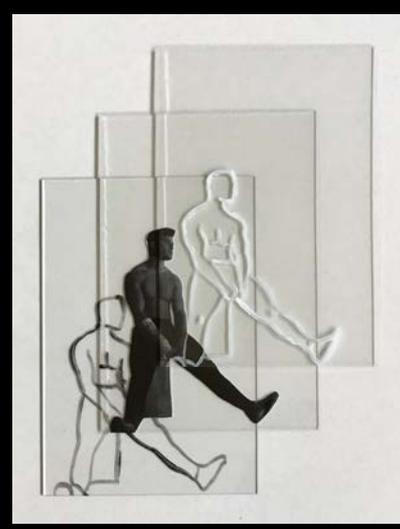
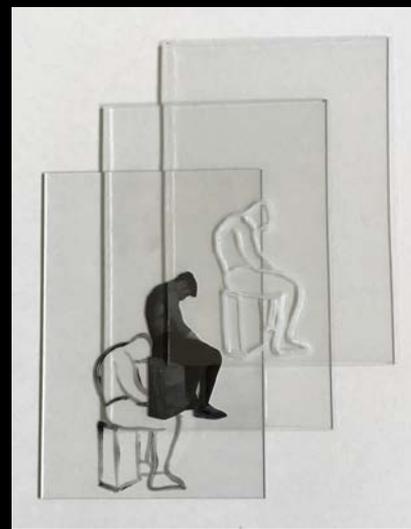
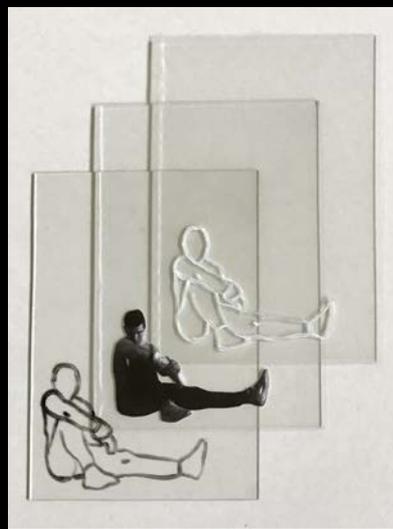
“Untitled” Panel Piece #1 2020 - Sheet Glass, Frit, Wood 7”x12”x7”



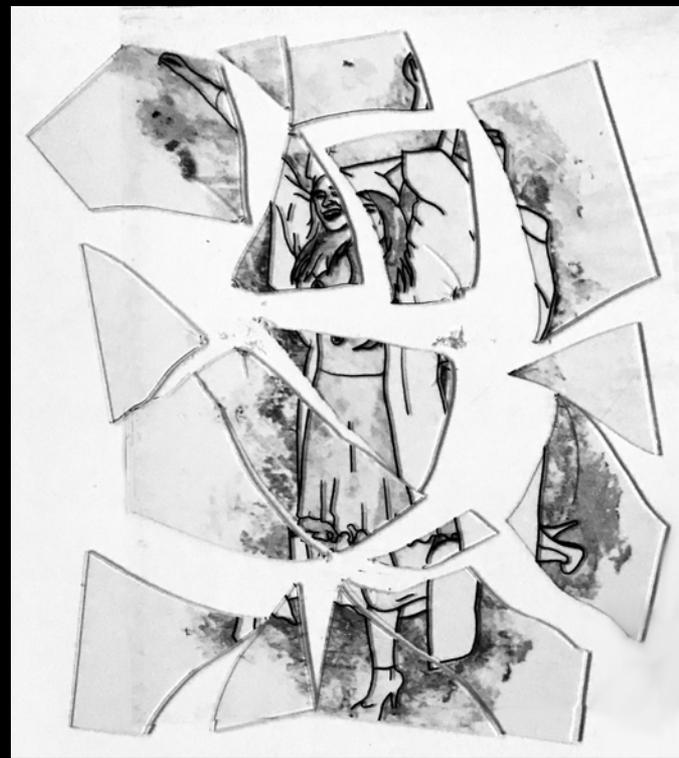
**“Untitled” 2020 -
Wall Piece**

Flat Glass Panels, Black
and White Enamel, Toner
on Paper

10”x8” x 6



“Shattered Hopes” 2020 - Sheet Glass, Black Enamel 12”x15”





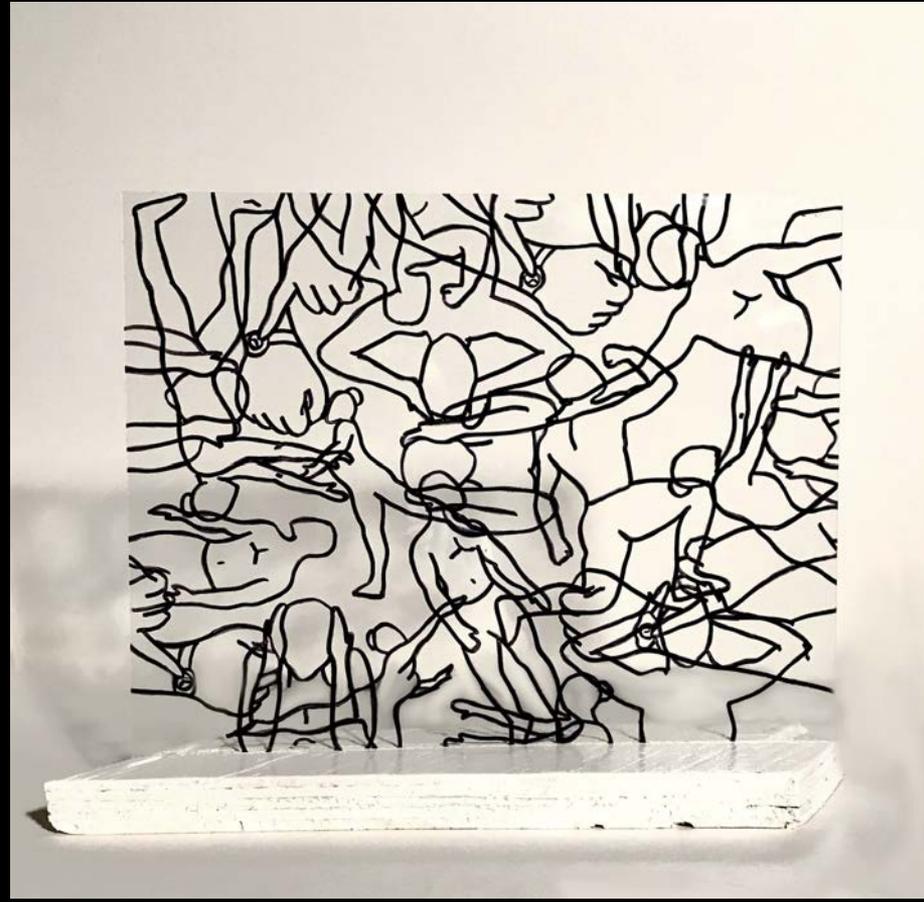
“Moving Through a Movement, Inside and Out” 2020 -

6”x10”x10”

**Sheet Glass, Wood,
Black & White Enamel**



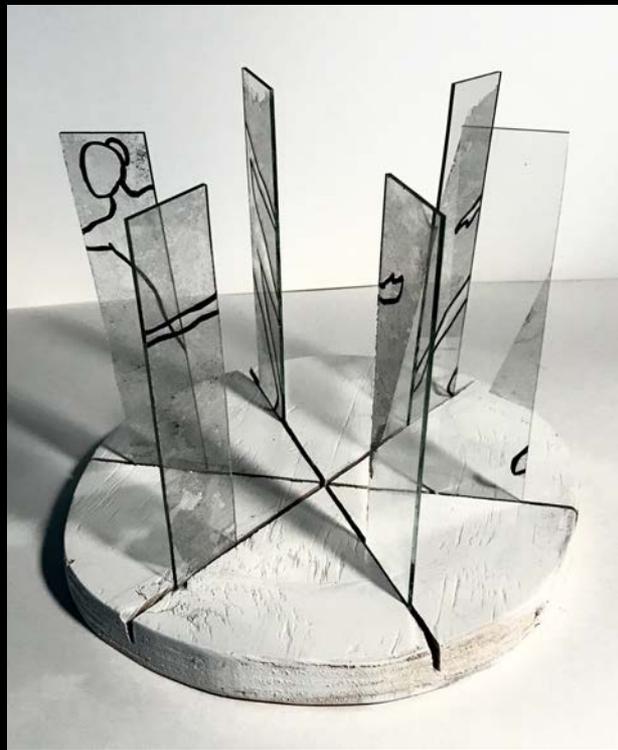
“Collection of Emotions” Variety of Gestures Overlapping 2020 - Sheet Glass, Wood, Black & White Enamel 10”x12”x3”



“Stretched Too Thin - part 1” 2020 - Sheet Glass, Wood, Black Enamel 6”x12”x3”



“Stretched Too Thin - part 2” 2020 - Clear Sheet glass, Wood 6”x10”x10”



Home Studio Space



Thank You!

Questions?